

Tents. Minimum Standards

The following list of standards is not exhaustive but gathers the main ones that can be visually verified without the need for testing.

- Double layer to allow ventilation.
 - The outer tent must be waterproof and have UV protection.
 - The inner tent must be water-vapor permeable.
 - Gap between layers.
- Cross ventilation to reduce temperature and humidity and prevent respiratory diseases. Doors and windows on opposite sides of the tent
- Doors and windows must be internally closable to allow privacy and reduce GBV risks.
- Mosquito nets on windows and doors to prevent mosquito-borne diseases and entry of rodents.
- Light colors to reduce heat trapping. Avoid colors that could be confused with camouflage or military identification.
- Central clear height of 2 meters to allow people to stand, reduce the temperature and improve indoor air circulation.
- Impermeable groundsheet (PE fabric or equivalent) to prevent water infiltration and presence of insects.
- Anti-fungal fabric to prevent respiratory diseases.
- The materials need to demonstrate durability when subjected to harsh environmental conditions such as strong winds, direct sunlight, and saline environments, with a minimum lifespan requirement of one year.
- Fabrics must have fire retardant treatments.
- Whatever the size of the tent, a minimum of 3.5 square meters per person must be respected.

The distribution of tents that do **not meet minimum** standards by humanitarian actors can lead to:

- False sense of protection, safety, and health among affected individuals.
- Aggravate or provoke health problems and spread of diseases.
- Distrust in humanitarian actors.
- Putting affected individuals at risk (fire, respiratory diseases, heat strokes).
- Create frustrations and tensions among recipient groups of different tents quality.
- Disrespecting and undermining the dignity of the people receiving the tents.

The distribution of tents must be accompanied, when possible and when needs are identified, by essential household items to allow for a dignified and safe life.

- Bedding sets (mattress, blankets, sheets, pillows)
- Food storage set (hermetic buckets)
- Cooking and eating sets (cooker, kitchen kit)
- WASH items.
- Clothing items.